District Governance Plan for Administrative District 9 of the Judicial Conference of Indiana

1. Special Judge Plans: Our District has reviewed the TR 79 plans in each county and have determined that each plan is current and allows for the efficient operation of special judge assignments in the District. Our District will use judges within the District or, as allowed by TR 79(H), drawn from counties that are contiguous to the county seeking a special judge. In order to maximize efficiency, and minimize inconvenience to litigants, each county will endeavor to assign its own judges before assigning special judges from outside the county.

2. Criminal Rule 2.2: Our District has reviewed the current Criminal Rule 2.2. Plans for the counties in our District. We have determined that the counties in our District currently follow the provisions of Criminal Rules 2.2, 12 and 13.

3. Leadership: From among the alternatives suggested to comply with AR 3(B), our District reviewed the suggested choices: (1) administrative judge/committee or (2) other specified organization established by the district. We have chosen the administrative judge model. The administrative judge shall be the representative to the Board of Directors.

4. Selection Process for Leadership: The term for the administrative judge shall be two years. The current Board representative will solicit nominees from among the trial judges to be the initial administrative judge. Thereafter, the administrative judge will conduct future selection processes. Nominees can self-nominate or be nominated by another judge. The selection will be conducted as follows: the administrative judge will be elected by and from among the judges within the District. A simple majority will be required to be elected. The District will not establish term limits for the administrative judge. We have selected Judge Chad E. Kukelhan as the administrative judge. He will be the District representative to the Board and has the authority to vote all of the votes allocated to the District.

5. Number of meetings: This District will hold one meeting per year and it will be organized by the administrative judge. A majority of the judges in the District will constitute a quorum to conduct business. Proxy votes at the District meeting can be cast as long as the administrative judge receives: a written notice by facsimile or email prior to the start of the meeting designating the judge's proxy; or the proxy provides an executed proxy instrument prior to or at the commencement of the meeting. Meetings will be conducted in person, electronically, or via conference call as determined by the needs of the District.

6. District Activities: Our District is cooperating on TR 79 and CR 2.2 Plans. Our District will investigate sharing of judicial resources when more resources become available.

7. Local Rules: Currently we do not have any District Rules.

8. Compliance: Our District Plan complies with minimum requirements for District governance contemplated in AR 3(B). A three-fourths majority of the judges in the District agreed to this plan on November 1, 2012, as amended on September 20, 2017. It will remain in effect until further notice.

Respectfully submitted to the Indiana Supreme Court Office of Judicial Administration this 20th day of September, 2017.

/S/ Chad E. Kukelhan
Chad E. Kukelhan, Judge
Adams Circuit Court
Administrative Judge, District 9